

cylindrical projection for placing the bearing and the stator mounted on an outer circumference of the cylindrical projection to confront a magnet of the rotor as recited in claim 1.

Nigam first fails to disclose Applicants' claimed invention because, as stated on page 2 of the Office Action, Nigam fails to disclose a housing which is unitarily formed by injection molding. Furthermore, while top cover 31 and bottom cover 32 include a cylindrical projection at their respective centers, as shown in Fig. 8, only the bearing 21 is placed on an outer circumference of the projection. It is neither disclosed nor suggested in Nigam to place the stator 19 on the outer circumference of the projection of either the top cover 31 or bottom cover 32. Thus, Nigam also fails to disclose a bearing and a stator mounted on an outer circumference of the cylindrical projection to confront a magnet of the rotor as recited in Applicants' amended claim 1.

Fukaya fails to overcome the deficiencies of Nigam because Fukaya also fails to place both a bearing and a stator on the outer circumference of a projection. In particular, Fukaya discloses an electric motor having a molded housing and connector plates projected therein. As shown in Fig. 3 of Fukaya, a housing 32 is used to house both the bearing 38 and the stator 40. Between the center of the housing 32 and the outside of the housing 32, a plurality of-stepped portions are formed. The bearing 38 is placed against the outer surface of one of the stepped portions. The stator 40 is placed against the outer surface of another stepped portion. However, it is neither taught nor suggested in Fukaya to place both the bearing 38 and stator 40 on the same stepped portion or to use a projection as recited in Applicants' claim 1.

In addition, claims 2, 4 and 6 recite additional features of the invention and are also believed to be allowable at least for the reasons discussed above with respect to claim 1 and

Claims 3 and 7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Nigam in view of Fukaya as applied to claim 1 above and further in view of Schick, U.S. Patent No. 5,757,587. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

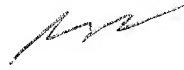
While Schick may disclose a housing 112 (col. 4, lines 35-38), it is neither disclosed nor suggested in Schick to mold the housing 112 and a spacer between the bearings as recited in claim 3 and 7. In addition, Schick fails to overcome the deficiencies of Nigam and Fukaya as applied to claim 1 because Schick fails to disclose a center of the housing forming a cylindrical projection for placing the bearing and the stator mounted on an outer circumference of the cylindrical projection to confront a magnet of the rotor as recited in claim 1.

In addition, claims 3 and 7 recite additional features of the invention and are also believed to be allowable at least for the reasons discussed above with respect to claim 1 and for the additional features recited therein. It is respectfully requested the rejection be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration of the application is requested. It is submitted the claims as presented herein patentably distinguish over the applied references and fully meet the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §112. Accordingly, allowance of claims 1-8 is respectfully solicited.

Should the Examiner believe anything further is desirable to place the application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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APPENDIX

Changes to Claims:

Claim 8 is added.

Claims 1 and 2 are amended.

The following are marked-up versions of the amended claims:

1. (Twice Amended) A spindle motor for a disk driving device comprising a housing holding a stator electrically connectable to a circuit board, ~~and a rotor at an outer~~  
~~circumference of which a magnet is provided, which are supported mutually rotatively~~  
supported rotatably relative to said housing through a shaft and a bearing, wherein said  
housing is made of resin-a super engineering plastic and is unitarily formed by injection  
molding, a center of said housing forming a cylindrical projection for placing said bearing  
and said stator mounted on an outer circumference of said cylindrical projection to confront a  
magnet of said rotor.

2. (Amended) A spindle motor for a disk driving device according to ~~Claim~~  
claim 1, wherein said ~~housing is formed with a~~ super engineering plastic is selected from  
liquid crystal polymer (LCP), polyphenylene sulfide (PPS), polyethersulfon (PES) and  
polysulfon (PSF).